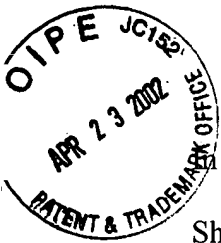


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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



re application of

Allowed: March 26, 2002

Shinoobu TANAKA

Appln. No. 09/883,279

Group Art Unit: 2167

Confirmation No.: 1528

Examiner: Gerald J. O'CONNOR

Filed: June 19, 2001

For: SINGLE LEVER WITH BUTTON FOR SELECTIVELY CONTROLLING EITHER
TILT OR LIFT OF A FORKLIFT MECHANISM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

BOX ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 26 2002

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under

04/24/2002 SDENBDB1 00000001 09883279

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180.00 OP

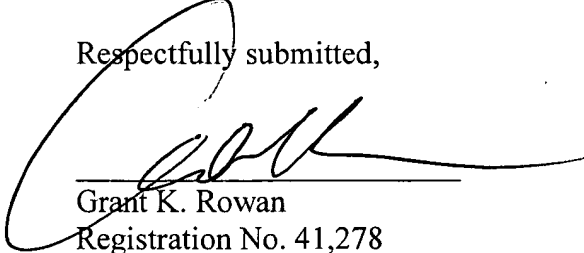
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/883,279

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a Foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. Also, Applicant is submitting herewith a concise statement for JP Patent Publication No. Hei. 8-292817.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



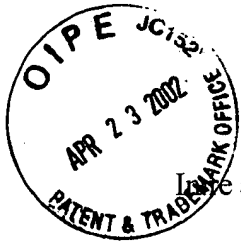
Grant K. Rowan
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Telephone: (202) 293-7060
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Date: April 23, 2002

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of

Shinoobu TANAKA

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TILT OR LIFT OF A FORKLIFT MECHANISM

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Grant K. Rowan".

Grant K. Rowan
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